[31st March 1955

* 1757 *Q.*—Sri P. JEEVANANDAM: Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(*a*) the terms of agreement reached by the Mysore State Government with this Government in the year 1892 regarding the sharing of the Palar River water;

(*b*) whether any other agreements or adjustments have been made subsequently in the matter;

(*c*) whether the conditions were respected till recently;

(*d*) if any of the conditions have been violated, what they are; and

(*e*) what action this Government have taken on such violations?

The Hon. Sri R. SHANMUGA RAJESWARA SETHUPATHI :—" (*a*) The Palar is one of the rivers coming within the scope of the agreement of 1892 between Madras and Mysore Governments and no new anicut or reservoir which would result in the diversion of water from the river beyond certain limits can be constructed by Mysore without the previous consent of Madras.

" (*b*) Yes. An understanding was reached in regard to the Bethamangalam tank in Mysore State in 1902 when the Mysore Government proposed to increase the capacity of the Bethamangalam tank. They agreed that the waters of this tank would be used only for domestic and industrial purposes of the Kolar Gold Fields and that the yearly draw-off of 72 m.c. feet would not at any time be increased without a previous reference to the Madras Government.

" In 1933, the Mysore Government agreed to examine whether and to what extent, it would be possible to supply the information asked for by the Madras Government and if so, at what cost.

" (*c*) Yes, so far as information is available to this Government.

" (*d*) Does not arise.

" (*e*) Does not arise. However, this Government are now considering a proposal to request the Government of India to constitute a Council under Article 263 of the Constitution of India to make enquiries into the matter. The proposal envisages the Council being comprised of persons not belonging to either of the two States involved."

* 1758 *Q.*—Sri P. JEEVANANDAM: Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Government have received any memorandum recently from the Committee constituted by the Palar Basin Agriculturists' Conference held in the first week of January 1955,